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A circular stamp from the Office of Intellectual Property (OIPE). The text "OIPE" is at the top, "JAN 11 2005" is in the center, and "PATENT &amp; TRADEMARK OFFICE" is at the bottom. The number "019" is partially visible at the top right.

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Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Application No.: 10/671,740

Filed: September 29, 2003

January 10, 2005

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

Documents A-E were cited in the International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/210), a copy of which is also enclosed. The concise explanation of their relevance may be found therein. (For the Examiner's convenience, reference B is enclosed as an English-language equivalent of reference D.)

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

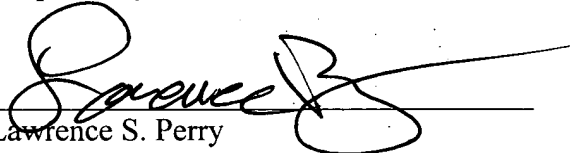
Each item of information in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing date of this Statement.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lawrence S. Perry", is written over a horizontal line.

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